

Remarks/Arguments:

The present invention relates to a module component. As illustrated, for example, by Applicants' Fig. 1, the module component includes substrate 11, partition 13 formed on substrate 11, sealing member 14 having left and right components and covering circuit blocks 12, and first and second conductive films 16 covering the surface of the first and second sealing members.

Claims 1, 5, 8-18 and 20-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Tsuneoka (US 2004/0252475). It is respectfully submitted, however, that these claims are now patentable over Tsuneoka for the reasons set forth below.

Applicants' invention, as recited by claim 1, includes the feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

... a partition formed on the substrate ... the partition is made of a composition of a resin and an electrically conductive material.

Prior to the present Amendment, claim 1 merely recited that the partition was made of a "conductive material." Applicants' claim 1 was rejected as reading on Tsuneoka because Tsuneoka, paragraph 28 described a partition having "good thermal conductivity." Tsuneoka, however, does not disclose that his partition is made of an electrically conductive material. In particular, Tsuneoka discloses his partition being made of epoxy-resins and insulating resin compositions. Thus, Tsuneoka's partition is not electrically conductive. By contrast, as set forth in Applicants' originally filed application at page 6, line 13, Applicants' partition is electrically conductive. Claim 1 has been amended accordingly. No new matter has been added.

In view of Applicants' claim 1 currently reciting that the partition is electrically conductive, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claim 17, while not identical to claim 1, similarly recites the use of an electrically conductive material. For the reasons set forth above, claim 17 is also patentable over the art of record.

The remaining dependent claims are patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claims.

Claims 2, 5 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuneoka in view of Matthews (U.S. Patent No. 7,049,682). These claims, however, are also patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claims.

Claims 3 and 22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuneoka in view of Nakatani (U.S. Patent No. 6,734,542). These claims, however, are also patentable over the art of record by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claims.

Claim 19 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuneoka in view of Percival (U.S. Patent No. 4,691,434). This claim, however, is also patentable by virtue of its dependency on an allowable independent claim.

Claims 23 and 24 are newly added. Claim 23 recites the feature of "the first and second conductive films have ends which face the partition and which are separated by the partition." Claim 24 is similar to claim 23, but in method language. As the above feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, newly added claims 23 and 24 are patentable over the art of record. This feature is illustrated, for example, in Applicants' Fig. 1. No new matter has been added.

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In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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